

V. Plan Implementation

DCR-OWM staff will communicate, implement, monitor, and enforce these updated policies regarding public access on lands and waters in the Quabbin Reservoir Watershed System beginning on January 1, 2006 (pending finalization and approval of Plan by DCR).

Because specific actions will change over time, implementation **Table 10** below outlines the responsible OWM Sections and their general focus areas for plan implementation.

Table 10 Summarized Activities for Plan Implementation

OWM Section	Activities
All Sections	Education, Monitoring,
Watershed Rangers	Enforcement
Environmental Quality	Water Quality Monitoring and Analysis
	Sanitary Facility location, maintenance and evaluation
Visitor Center/Interpretative Services	Public Education /Interpretative Services
Watershed Maintenance	Installation of Access Controls

A. Enforcement

The OWM's Watershed Rangers are trained to educate the public on watershed regulations and to identify and communicate rules interventions as part of the Division's enforcement program. While rare there are times when the rangers must rely on police (state and local) to enforce the regulations. In addition, the MA Environmental Police provide rules enforcement for complementary state wide environmental regulations. Watershed Rangers are in radio contact with both the EPOs and State police and meet systematically with both these groups. These relationships are critical to the enforcement of DCR regulations.

Since 1999, the DCR Watershed Rangers have tracked their access rule enforcement interventions. **Table 11** shows the total rules interventions by type between 1999-2005. **Table 12** lists access permit monitoring by year.

Table 11 Watershed Ranger Interventions 1999-2005

Intervention Type	Number of Rule Interventions
Domestic Animals	919
Trespass	896
Bike/Sled/Ski	215
Swim/Wade	161
Boating	122
Fishing	98
Snowmobiles/ATV/M.V.	61
Cooking/Fires	51
Vandalism	47
Dumping/Littering	47
Alcohol	38
Metal Detecting	15
Permit Violations (see below)	15
Collecting	14
Firearms/Target Shooting	03
Disorderly Conduct	02
Harassment/Breach of Peace	03
Non-compliance	01
Feeding Wildlife	01
Parasailing/Aircraft Landing	02

(Source: OWM Watershed Rangers, 2005)

Table 12 Watershed Ranger Permit Monitoring 2001-2004

Permit Type	2001	2002	2003	2004
Research	15	15	134	279
Long Pond	55	55	55	54
Employee	00	00	34	50
Schools	39	49	31	45
Night Access	00	00	00	36
Clubs/Organizations	39	33	36	32
Former Residents	09	07	08	14
Businesses	23	16	37	09
NationalGrid	00	00	10	09
Weddings	16	13	08	05
Former Employees	00	00	00	03
Memorial Service	00	00	00	01
Animal Control	00	00	00	01
General Access	00	00	00	01
TOTALS	198	250	353	539

B. Public Education/Interpretive Services

Public education is a vital component of the Division's Watershed Protection strategy. The OWM strives to directly communicate not only what the rules and regulations are, but also why the rules are needed for drinking water supply protection. To this end, two different sections work on different fronts of public education and interpretative services. The Watershed Rangers speak informally with users while patrolling property. The Quabbin Visitor Center Staff conduct school programs for students within watershed communities, maintain the Quabbin Visitor Center and related programs.

C. Sanitation

The Environmental Quality section monitors existing and future locations for seasonal portable toilet locations and maintenance. The proper siting of portable toilets is important management control mechanism.

Permanent visitor sanitation facilities are located at the three boat launch areas (currently only open during the Quabbin fishing season), the Quabbin Tower, the main Administration Area (main building and hangar).

D. Structural Access Controls

Structural access controls such as locked metal and wooden gates, concrete barriers, and internal road intersection signage. Some gate systems may be modified to accommodate existing user groups while maintaining the structural integrity of the gates. The gate locking system will continue to be monitored by staff. OWM staff coordinates security with MWRA.

E. Signs

Due to the recent organization changes within the DCR, the OWM has been slowly replacing and updating signage. Signage consists of gate signage, tree signage, and kiosk signage. Kiosks will be installed at popular gate entry points (e.g., Gate 11, Gate 29, and Gate 40).

F. Mapping

Where applicable, public access maps will be improved to provide user with better location information. Maps will be available through the Watershed Rangers, Visitor Center, and on-line.

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